

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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KREISKY STATES AUSTRIA'S CASE ON DISARMAMENT.

State Secretary Kreisky addressed the First Committee at U.N. Headquarters on October 29. He outlined Austria's position on disarmament as follows:

"Austria has always shown great interest in the problem of disarmament, which is understandable in view of Austria's geographical position. It was, therefore, with great satisfaction that we followed the negotiations in London which seemed to justify our hopes for progress. In this connection, I am thinking particularly of the encouraging statements made by the representative of the United States, Mr. Stassen, and by the representative of the Soviet Union, Mr. Zorin, in the Subcommittee of the Disarmament Commission.

"In the course of the negotiations, both representatives expressed a certain optimism regarding a limited disarmament agreement and stressed the realistic possibilities for finding a common basis on which some of the most urgent disarmament measures would be discussed. Unfortunately, this hope for an early agreement, however limited in scope, was illusory. Nevertheless, it seems to the Austrian delegation that the divergence of opinion is not as great as it has appeared to be during the debate in the Committee.

Ground for Optimism

"First I should like to mention the proposed obligation not to use nuclear weapons. The original proposal submitted by the representative of the Soviet Union, according to which the Powers concerned would assume the obligation not to use such weapons for an unlimited period, was modified, during

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PITTERMANN SPEAKS ON EUROPEAN UNIFICATION. In his farewell address to the European Consultative Assembly, Austrian Vice-Chancellor Bruno Pittermann expressed an ardent wish for the early realization of European unification.

Vice-Chancellor Pittermann spoke on the occasion of his resignation as Deputy Chairman of the Strasbourg Council of the European Consultative Assembly, after his appointment as deputy head of the Austrian government.

Mr. Pittermann went on to say, "The foremost task of the Consultative Assembly is to create an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding through democratic exchange of views among the delegates of the European nations. Only such an atmosphere will enable the national and supranational institutions concerned to reach concrete solutions for the problems of European unification."

ATOMIC AGENCY CONFERENCE CONCLUDED. The General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency held its final meeting on October 23, 1957. First of all, the permanent rules of procedure were adopted unanimously. It was then decided that the next session of the General Conference should be held at Vienna on September 22, 1958.

By unanimous vote, the Board of Governors was authorized to draft before the end of the year the report to the United Nations General Assembly which is provided for in the agreement between the Agency and the United Nations.

AUSTRIA MAKES MILLION DOLLAR LOAN TO ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. The Board of Governors and the two Main Committees of the Atomic Energy Agency have now concluded their work. Among other things, agreement has been reached on a provisional percentual apportionment of member-states contributions for the first working year of the organization. Under these arrangements, the United States will contribute 33.33 per cent (the highest contribution allowed under the statutes), the Soviet Union 13.4 per cent, France 5.47 per cent, China 4.93 per cent, the German Federal Republic 4.08 per cent, India 2.85 per cent and Italy 2.0 per cent. The percentages for the other countries range between the lowest possible amount of 0.04 per cent (Albania, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Monaco, Nicaragua, Paraguay and the Vatican City) and 2 per cent. Austria's contribution will be 0.35 per cent. for the first financial period, i.e. to the end of 1958, a program of expenditures in the amount of \$4,089,000 is being proposed to the General Conference. Austria will make a loan of one million dollars to the Agency so that it can begin its work.

A BUDGET DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY. On October 29, Parliament convened for its first session following the summer vacations to hear the 1958 budget statement from the Finance Minister.

Finance Minister Kamitz introduced his report with a statement that in modern states the national budget had become an essential and determining factor in economic policy. He said that, more and more, debate on upcoming budgets reflects the attitude of national representative bodies to the basic requirements of cultural, social welfare and economic policies. At the same time, it gives rise to new suggestions concerning the methods to be used.

Continuing, Herr Kamitz declared: "In the agitated and

stirring times in which we are living, the drafting of this budget coincides with a period of worldwide discussion of important issues. On the one hand, I have in mind the problem of creeping inflation which in the free world today is impelling the financial and economic policymakers to find a solution to the problem of establishing a policy of full employment compatible with stable currency values. On the other hand, I recall the fact that at the last meeting of the OEEC Council of Ministers on October 17, 1957, a decision was reached in principle to set up a free trade area, thereby taking a first and important step towards world economic integration. Austria does not exist as an isolated entity on this globe and is therefore extremely interested in a constructive solution of these far-reaching problems. If it is taking active part in the consultations on these matters, it is doing so for obvious reasons of self preservation.

Bigger Income, Bigger Outlay

"The final figures established by the Federal Budget Law for the regular Federal Budget for 1958 are as follows: expenditures 37,264,000,000 schillings, receipts 36,278,000,000, leaving a deficit of 986,000,000 schillings. The special budget provides for an outlay of 1,707,000,000 schillings, so that the total deficit amounts to 2,693,000,000 schillings (one dollar equals 26 schillings - Ed.).

"There is also a contingency budget of 500 million schillings which, unlike its 1957 counterpart, is not divided into categories. The final figures show that expenditures under the regular budget are 5,452,000,000 higher than for 1957 and those under the special budget are 995,000,000 higher.

"This increase in expenditures is quite extensive, especially if the contingency budget is included, although this depends on the availability of the necessary income. In order to justify it from an overall economic point of view, it is necessary to study and assess the trend of receipts. The policy underlying this program of expenditures is based on the structure of receipts. It is the latter consideration which provides the framework within which expenditures can be approved and authorized without giving rise to the danger of a concomitant expansive effect, which could jeopardize the maintenance of currency value.

"As already mentioned, total income for 1958 is estimated at about 36.2 billion schillings. Studying the overall trend of receipts since 1954, we find that there has been an increase by about 10 billion schillings through 1957. The total income of the Federal Government, on the basis of final annual figures, was 24,528 million schillings in 1954, 27,592 million in 1955, 30,014 million in 1956 and in 1957 it is expected to exceed 33 billion schillings.

"Therefore, if a 10 per cent increase in receipts is assumed for 1958 (the rate of increase from 1956 to 1957 was about 11 per cent), we arrive at a figure of 36.3 billion schillings in total receipts, i.e. a higher figure than has been assumed for 1958.

"All in all, it can be assumed that, if the present economic expansion continues (and it is being promoted by a

number of economic and financial policy measures), it will be possible to cover the projected expenditure for 1958.

"The structure of the contingency budget in 1957 proved to be sound. A similar budget is being proposed for 1958. The significance of this step lies not only in the earmarking of additional income for specific expenditures but also in the fact that additional expenditures cannot be decided on unless the funds necessary for covering them are available. In this way, the contingency budget insures that both the income and outlay provisions will be adhered to, thereby making possible economy of management."

GSCHNITZER ON TYROL: "ACT LIKE EUROPEANS."

Dealing with the problem of South Tyrol in a speech which he delivered at Innsbruck, Under-Secretary of State Gschnitzer said experience shows that the matter is confused rather than clarified when too many statements are made. He maintained that the following facts spoke more clearly than could any statement:

In 1910, Bolzano had 30,424 inhabitants and in 1956, 80,233; the population of Trento in 1910 was 46,985 and in 1956 it was 66,412. During World War Two, 1,500 dwellings were destroyed at Bolzano and 2,490 at Trento. On December 31, 1945, Bolzano had 61,788 inhabitants living in 12,327 dwellings consisting of 41,209 rooms. On December 31, 1956, the figures for the same city were 81,233 inhabitants in 19,115 dwellings consisting of 66,993 rooms. This means that from 1945 to 1956, 6,788 dwellings (25,784 rooms) were either built or restored. But the damage caused to 1,500 dwellings during the war has not yet been eliminated; in the older, German, part of Bolzano there are still a large number of ruined buildings. On the other hand, in the southern part of the city, a whole new section - inhabited exclusively by Italians - has sprung up.

As indicated above, 6,788 housing units were built in Bolzano from 1945 to 1956. During the same period, only 1,466 were erected in Trento. In the latter city there are no longer people living without a roof over their heads, but in Bolzano, due to the influx of new residents, there are 331 families, consisting of 1,380 persons, who are living in ruined buildings, huts and emergency housing, such as barracks. This means that approximately 350 dwellings are needed. Moreover, a number of the existing facilities are overcrowded. The South Tyroleans have received no more than 6 per cent of the newly erected housing (or 7 per cent, in terms of the entire province).

Professor Gschnitzer mentioned in conclusion that negotiations between Austria and Italy concerning South Tyrol were to begin shortly. On October 9, 1956, Austria submitted a memorandum to the Italian Government setting forth various complaints on non-fulfilment of the Paris Agreement. "Let us put an end to fruitless polemics," said the Austrian statesman in conclusion: "It is time to act like Europeans and in the present case this means action, and action here and now."

FREE TRADE AREA IN EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1, 1958.

The Council of Ministers of the European Economic Council of OEEC has reached agreement on the formation of a European free trade area to which the 17 member states of OEEC will belong. The organization will also be associated with the six member states of the European Coal and Steel Community. It will be set up at the same time as the common market, i.e. on January 1, 1957. The Council of Ministers of the countries represented in the free trade zone will attempt to follow a common agricultural policy.

Foreign Minister Leopold Figl, the Austrian spokesman on the Council repeated the expression of his country's agreement in principle to the establishment of the free trade area, which was made by the Austrian delegation last February. He recalled that the Austrian Government had informed the Organization about the difficulties confronting Austria and had arranged for the General Secretariat to circulate the pertinent Austrian memorandum of May 15, 1957, to the member states of OEEC.

Herr Figl emphasized that the Austrian Government would prefer a solution providing for a reciprocal adjustment of economic policies, especially in the fields of finance, currency and employment. He expressed the view that the dates fixed for initial reductions of customs duties and quotas in the free trade area should coincide with the corresponding dates fixed by the European Economic Community.

INCREASE IN FOREIGN TRADE. According to preliminary figures from the Central Statistical Office, Austrian foreign trade during September showed a deficit of 244 million schillings, an increase of 21 million schillings over the previous month. The value of imports increased from 2,367 million schillings to 2,430 million, while exports increased only slightly, from 2,144 million schillings to 2,186 million. Volume of imports increased from 1,027,400 tons to 1,039,500 tons, exports from 529,000 to 579,500 tons.

CANADIAN DELEGATION IN VIENNA. An official government delegation of British Columbia, Canada, under the leadership of L.W. Bonner, the province's Minister of Commerce and Industry visited Vienna during October while on a tour through various European nations. Through industrial inspections and conferences with industry representatives, the delegation established contacts in Austrian economic circles which are expected to result in increased trade with Canada.

DEPOSITS IN SAVINGS ACCOUNTS EXCEED 10 BILLION SCHILLINGS. As of the end of September, 1957, total savings deposits for the first time passed the ten-billion-schilling mark. Total deposits on September 30 amounted to 10,198 million schillings. The increase in savings deposits in the first nine months of 1957 totaled 1,460 million schillings, i.e. 28.5 per cent more than in the same period last year.

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Krelsky on Disarmament (Continued from page 1)

the twelfth session of the General Assembly, to a period of five years. On the other hand, in deference to the argument advanced by the representative of the Soviet Union, the United States has now agreed, subject to the consent of the Governments concerned, to include in the system of aerial and ground inspection military bases on foreign territory not within the two zones envisaged in the London proposals.

"Finally, I should like to mention here the statement made on 10 October by the representative of the United States, Mr. Lodge, to the effect that measures as outlined in the twenty-four Power draft resolution. It is significant that in this same draft resolution, the paragraph providing for the immediate suspension of the testing of nuclear weapons has been placed first.

"The Austrian delegation sees in these efforts a desire on both sides to achieve positive results. We therefore believe that it is all the more imperative to continue to work in this direction in order to achieve, during this General Assembly, at least a partial result. In this connection, I should like to refer to certain events which have recently become focal points of international attention. More than anything else, these events prove once again that scientific progress evolves in stages and that the technically most developed countries advance more or less simultaneously. History has shown that a temporary advantage of a few months, whatever its immediate psychological impact, is only of passing significance. It would therefore seem most unfortunate if we who are assembled here were to allow ourselves to be led into accepting a situation in which the arms race — unfortunate enough in itself — receives a new impetus purely through considerations of prestige.

"I have already noted the indications of a certain willingness on both sides to compromise, and it would seem to me that now, during these negotiations, the time has come to take a decisive step in this direction. The recent establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency has brought us encouraging news that our optimism is justified. The successful General Conference of that Agency, held in Vienna, demonstrated what constructive international co-operation can achieve. We are all aware that a problem as difficult as that of disarmament can only be solved by patience and perseverance. The peoples of the world have a right to expect such patience and perseverance from us. On the basis of the experience of recent history, we should like to cite here the Austrian State Treaty as an example of peaceful co-operation between the great Powers. A problem of world-wide political importance, which seemed to be incapable of solution, was resolved through the determination of the Powers concerned to reach an understanding. It seemed at the time as though they were at the threshold of a new era of mutual trust and lessening of tensions. Hope grew in all parts of the world that it might now be possible to solve other outstanding political problems, and among these the question of disarmament takes priority. It is our task to find a solution to this problem if we wish to spare the world a bitter disappointment."

PROMOTION IN A COMMON MARKET, A NOVEL PROBLEM TO EUROPEANS. From November 7-9, 1957, specialists from Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands attended the Fourth Meeting on Promotion in Vienna. On the agenda were primarily subjects bearing upon the planned establishment of a common European market. The nine working groups of the meeting heard reports on advertising psychology, bank advertising, the organization of advertising market analysis, advertising design and law, promotion in foreign countries, tourist promotion and trade promotion.

DEMAND FOR AUSTRIAN METAL GOODS ABROAD. Exports of Austrian metal goods have continued to rise this year. During the first half of 1957, these exports represented a value of 761 million schillings, as compared with only 484 million in the comparable period of 1956 (one dollar equals 26 schillings).

These figures also cover finished iron and steel construction parts and assemblies, which accounted for 109 million schillings during the period covered by the report. Other items included hand and machine tools (77 million) in first place, followed by nails, bolts, nuts, rivets, screws, etc. (44 million), metal containers for transportation and storage purposes (39 million), wire netting and wire gauze, as well as malleable sheets of aluminum, copper and other light metals (28 million), cutlery (26 million), iron and steel household equipment (including enamel covered kitchen ware) (17 million) and wire netting and wire gauze, as well as sheets of malleable iron and steel (11 million).

COAL SUPPLY SATISFACTORY. During the first three quarters of 1957, Austrian consumers were supplied with 3.6 million tons of coal and coal briquettes (112,525 tons of which were of domestic origin), 5.2 million tons of lignite and lignite briquettes (4.5 million tons domestically produced) and nearly 2 million tons of coal coke (1.6 million tons of domestic origin). Compared with the first three quarters of 1956, total coal deliveries in 1957 were 5.4 per cent higher.

RECORD OUTPUT AT ALPINE-MONTAN. During September, 1957, record production levels were achieved by the Oesterreichische Alpine Montangesellschaft. At the company's Erzberg unit in Styria, daily ore output climbed to a level of 10,641 tons, or 2.62 per cent more than in September, 1956. This average daily output at Erzberg is the highest achieved since the end of the war. Total ore production at Erzberg in the first nine months of this year amounted to 2,310,660 tons, so that this year's output can be expected to exceed three million tons, assuming that there is no interruption in operations. Total ore production at Erzberg in 1956 was 2.87 million tons.

At the Donawitz plant (Styria) where four blast furnaces were in operation during September, pig iron production amounted to 55,981 tons. Raw steel production, at 75,902 tons, was 6 per cent up from August 1957 and nearly 7 per cent higher than in September 1956. (The output of rolled products increased in a similar proportion.)

EXPORTS OF ROLLING-MILL PRODUCTS UP 45 PER CENT. During the first nine months of this year, the Austrian rolling-mill industry increased its total output over the same period of last year by some 13.8 per cent, or 1,160,000 tons. This increased output was evident in almost all types of products, with the exception of bar iron and rails, the former showing a slight decline of 0.7 per cent (total output 277,000 tons).

The decrease in bar iron was more than offset by a 133.3 per cent increase in structural steel for a total of 35,000 tons. The drop in rail production reflected the reduction in investments on the part of the Federal Railroads.

Production of strip iron increased over the first three quarters of 1956 by 11 per cent to a total of approximately 61,000 tons, wire rod output by 10 per cent to about 128,000 tons, light sheet-metal by 22 per cent to 345,000 tons, light plate-metal by 25 per cent to 55,000 tons and heavy plate-metal by 23.5 per cent to approximately 200,000 tons.

Exports reflected a tendency for high-grade products to increase. Whereas foreign sales of pig iron dropped from 220,000 tons (first eight months of 1956) to 171,000 tons (same period this year), or 22.3 per cent, exports of natural steel increased almost five-fold to reach a total of 93,000 tons, while exports of semi-finished steel increased four-fold to reach a total of 24,000 tons. Rolling-mill stock reflected an increase of 45 per cent, for a total of 481,000 tons.

HIGH CAPITAL EXPENDITURES BY THE AUSTRIAN POWER AUTHORITY. Capital expenditures by the Austrian Power Authority for 1957 will amount to approximately 2,166 million schillings (one dollar equals 26 schillings - Ed.). Thus far, no fewer than seventeen sources have been drawn upon to finance this undertaking. The most important of these are the following: the World Bank loan, 322 million schillings; the first issue of the 1957 Power Loan, 296 million; self-financing from sums set aside for depreciation, 223 million; funds from the Federal and Laender budgets, 219 million; ERP funds, 210 million; insurance loans, 124 million; and foreign loans amounting to approximately 78 million schillings. Of the over 2 billion schillings required, about 400 million are yet to be provided for. Part of the latter amount will be obtained from the second issue of the 1957 Power Loan, which is to be opened for subscription during October.

Power consumption of public electricity supply was 9.9 per cent higher during the 1957 summer term (i.e. from April to September) than during the corresponding period in 1956. During 1957, a number of new power-producing units have started operating, including two generators (with a total capacity of 20,000 kilowatts) at the Ottenstein reservoir power plant, another two generators (total capacity 40,000 kilowatts) at the Reisseck power plant of the Oesterreichische Drakraftwerke A.G. (Austrian-Drava Power Plants, Inc.) and a 5,000-kilowatt generator at the Arsenal long-distance thermal power plant.

BIG REFINERY NEAR VIENNA. The Board of Directors of the Austrian Petroleum Administration (OeMV) has decided to construct a large, new refinery at Schwechat. The plans call for an oil output of approximately 2.5 million tons per annum. This would represent a basic capacity for the atmospheric distillation of 1.6 million tons and installations for the processing of an additional 900,000 tons (either domestic crude oil or oil imported from the Middle East). During the first stage of construction, one of the units to be erected would be a so-called "catalytic reforming installation" (for the production of high grade gasolines from the gasoline fraction present in the crude oil). The plans also call for the construction of a large power plant to supply the steam and power needed by the refinery and any auxiliary plants which may be built later.

A noteworthy element in the planning is the intention of setting up a gas-separation unit, by means of which the exhaust gas from the old refinery's thermal cracking plant could be used in the production of useful hydrocarbon compounds, such as butane and propane and also — at a later stage — ethane, with a view to producing polyethylene. Realization of these plans would afford modern petrochemical plants an opportunity to work in close cooperation with the refinery, making use of its exhaust fumes for the production of plastics. It is estimated that construction of the installations will require four years.

LENZING RAYON MILL HAS CAPACITY OF 130 TONS PER DAY. The Lenzing Rayon Company, which last year sold 683 million schillings worth of their product, registered sales amounting to 354 million schillings in the first half of 1957 (1 dollar equals 26 schillings - Ed.). At the present time, the plant is producing about 130 tons of rayon yarn per day. The production goal, once expansion has been completed, is 150 tons per day. Thanks to extensive rationalization measures, the price of rayon yarn on the domestic market has remained unchanged, despite increasing labor and raw-material costs. On the other hand, rayon is exposed to increasing price pressure on the world market. This trend is being watched with increasing concern at Lenzing since about 50 per cent of the company's output is exported.

The plant is equipped to play its part in the European common market. The rayon yarn division of the Lenzing company is today one of the most modern in the entire industry. Next year, its "Austrophan" (transparent cellophane for wrapping) section will be equipped with the most modern machinery in Europe for this type of production. Forty million schillings of the company's own funds are to be invested in the construction of a building to house a new assembly for the manufacture of cellophane. This will make it possible to produce 7.5 tons of "Austrophan" per day. By itself and when operating at full capacity, this new installation will alone account for annual sales amounting to 100 million schillings. Effective October 1, a 44-hour week was introduced at Lenzing (a reduction of four hours in the earlier work week), resulting in an increase of about 6 million schillings in personnel costs.

HOLDERS OF AUSTRIAN PATENTS ARE MAINLY FOREIGN COMPANIES. The statistics published annually by the Austrian Patent Office show that the interest of foreigners in acquiring Austrian patents is increasing with each successive year. The number of patents granted to Austrians in 1954 was 1,472; in 1955 it rose to 1,532 and in 1956 to 1,677. During the same period, the figure for patents granted to foreigners jumped first from 2,031 to 2,648 and from the latter figure to 3,447. This means that the proportion of patents granted by the Austrian patent office to foreigners rose from 58 per cent in 1954 to 63.5 per cent in 1955 and then to 67.2 per cent in 1956, or that more than two-thirds of all patents went to non-Austrian interests. All indications are that this trend has not yet reached its highest level.

The percentage of foreign patent holdings is especially high in the electrical engineering class and the general class of chemical processes and apparatus. No fewer than 539, or 69.2 per cent, of the 778 patents in the electrical engineering group last year were granted to foreigners. The comparable figures in the chemical field were even higher, i.e. 241 out of 284, or 84.9 per cent.

PAY-AS-YOU-VIEW SETS BOOST AUSTRIAN TV. A Graz company has developed an original system for selling television sets. The sets are equipped with time devices which cause them to operate for one hour when a ten-schilling coin (about 40 cents) is inserted. If the customer does not like the set, the sum which he has deposited up to the time he returns the machine is counted as a rental fee. If he decides to keep the set, the contents of the "piggy bank" count as an installment payment. The entire set can be paid off by this method.

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VIENNA 1984. The Orwellian date notwithstanding, good things are in store for Vienna by 1984. The population of Vienna is again increasing at a regular rate. Forty-three young Viennese are born every day. If this trend continues at a uniform rate, Vienna will have a population of two million within about 27 years, or in the year 1984. From September 1, 1954 to September 1, 1957, the population of the city increased by 29,222. The number of men in this figure is approximately twice as great as that of the women. During the past twelve months alone, the increase amounted to 13,086 persons. As of the end of September, the population of Vienna was 1,638,132, or 1,809 more than at the beginning of the month.

The Statistical Office of the City of Vienna lists 1,206 marriages during the month of September. This figure was 182 fewer than in September 1956. The number of children born in September 1957 was 1,295, or 121 more than in September 1956. A total of 8,251 persons took up residence in Vienna in September 1957.

BURGENLAND IS A "DEFICIT AREA." The determined efforts of the economic organizations of Burgenland to bring about the economic growth of this easternmost Austrian Land and to attract new undertakings to this hitherto neglected area have been given further support by the publication of a noteworthy brochure entitled "Industry in Burgenland." The publication is the work of planning specialists and offers a survey of the basic economic facts of the area and of the opportunities for development available there. It describes Burgenland — which was long occupied by the Russians — as an underdeveloped area, or, to use the language of the experts, a "deficit area," as compared with areas more favorably situated and more richly endowed with raw materials. It is noteworthy, however, that many of the favorable factors which would be definite prerequisites to a change in this situation are actually present.

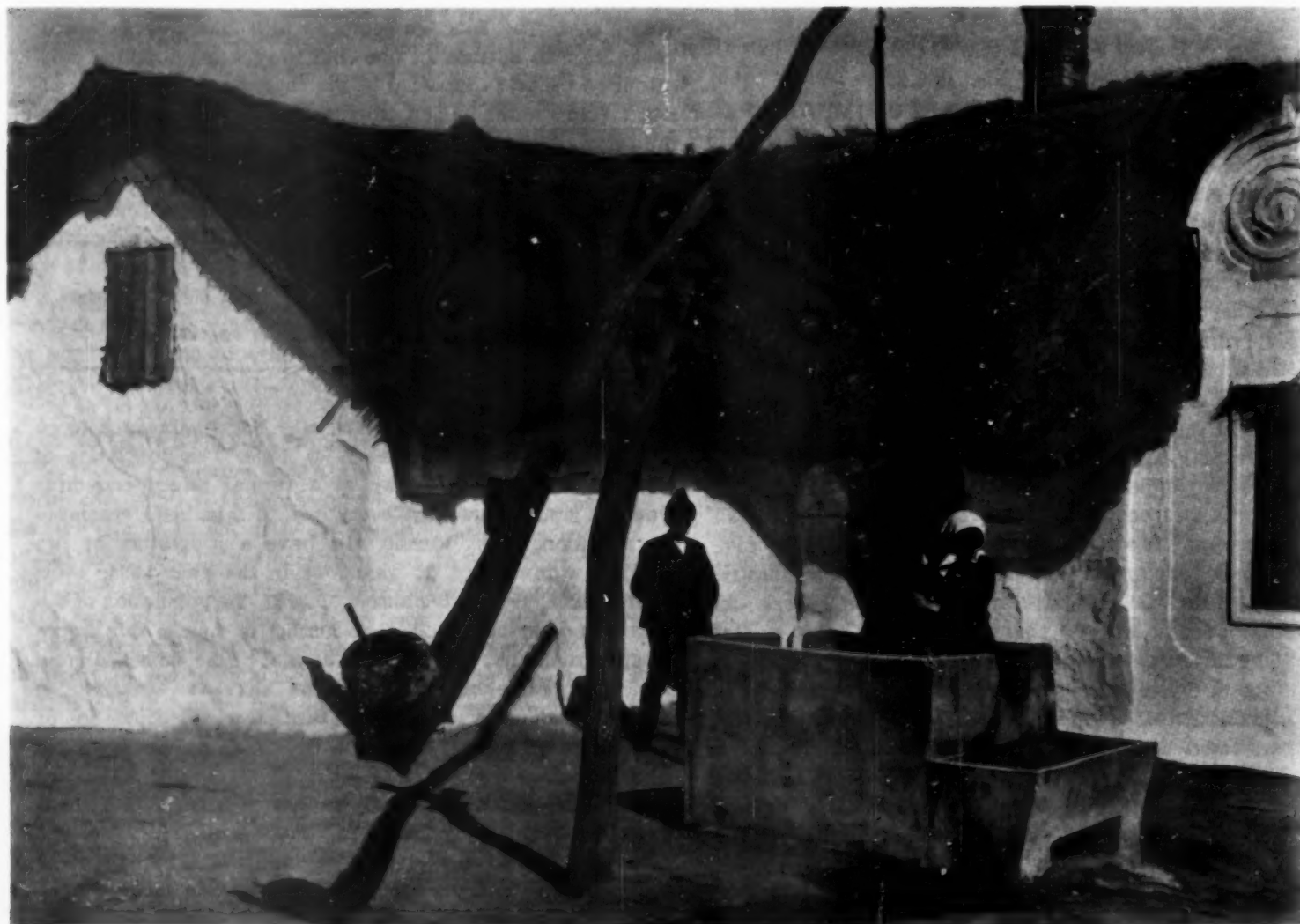
One of these factors would be better utilization of mineral resources. The presence of lignite, antimony, asbestos, chalk, basalt and other mineral deposits would seem to call for better industrial exploitation. Burgenland is a rich agricultural area and has extensive markets nearby. Thus far, however, marketing of its wine and fruit-growing produce has been slight. Nor is the output of dairy products satisfactory.

The wood and reed resources of the Land go largely unprocessed.

The above-described raw materials, i.e. the minerals and agricultural and forestry products, cry out for utilization in connection with the tourist industry, considering the many mineral springs, the possibilities of incorporating folk art in the production of tourist articles, such as fruit brandy in clay vessels manufactured by the potteries at Stooß and fine fruits in woven baskets, as well as the situation on the labor market. (Burgenland has the highest unemployment rate in Austria and a considerable proportion of its more than 16,000 itinerant workers would be available for work at new plants in their native region.)

CUSTOMS DUTIES ON GIFT PARCELS TO AUSTRIA. The Austrian Ministry of Finance has ruled that henceforth the provisions for "customs exemption for gifts" are to apply to customs processing of gifts from abroad.

It is intended that the provisions should be interpreted broadly and that special proof of indigence should be dispensed with where the income of the recipient does not greatly exceed his subsistence requirements and no other appreciable amount of wealth is involved.



Where East meets West in Europe: A typical farmhouse in the Burgenland.

In order to facilitate matters still further for the recipients of gifts through the mails, gift parcels consisting of used household equipment and used articles of clothing as well as minor incidental items will be delivered to the recipient free of entry duty and without proof of indigence. (This means that a visit of the recipient to the post office's customs branch is no longer necessary.)

The customs offices are also being authorized to issue import permits for small amounts of spirits which may be included in beverages sent as gifts. This measure will apply in respect to both of the cases in which exemption from the entry duty is now authorized under the existing regulations and the cases in which no exemption from entry duty can be granted because there is no indigence factor.

Regardless of the means by which they are transported, all foreign tobacco articles entering the country as gifts are subject to entry duty. Such tobacco goods are also subject to an import authorization as provided by the Tobacco Monopoly Law. Nevertheless, the customs offices are authorized to grant import permits for tobacco articles for gift purposes in an amount not exceeding 100 schillings (four dollars).

CULTURE AND SCIENCE

PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD SKIING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The 1958 Alpine ski championships, which are to be held at Bad Gastein, are not far off and activity at the Hotel Austria, headquarters for the event, is already at full pitch. The first race — the race with time — has actually been won by Bad Gastein itself. Having as it were come away empty handed during the Winter Olympics, the resort has now consolidated its reputation as a winter sports center to such an extent that it is now ready to receive the International Ski Federation (I.S.F.), the elite of skiing from thirty different countries.

Professor Wolfgang, General Secretary of the Alpine World Championships is convinced that Gastein will pass muster. "We trust that we shall meet the test of Bibbo Norden-skjoeld of Sweden, the responsible I.S.F. expert," he said. Nordenskjöld is scheduled to come to Austria within a few weeks to inspect the racing and reserve tracks. Once the first snow has fallen, there will be no rest for the track supervisors.

However, a world ski championship does not consist only of racing tracks and skiers: the host of visitors must be remembered. They too, want to see something. There has been more than one winter sports event where the stands simply could not hold all the spectators and the tracks were lined so closely that the skiers could hardly see the finishing lines.

Things at Bad Gastein will be different, according to the officials of the local ski club who are arranging the I.S.F. competitions. The entire Bad Gastein Valley, with its large hotels arranged in a succession of tiers, in itself provides a huge natural stadium. The Stubnerkogel and the side of the valley on which the railroad and highways run afford a full view of the racing tracks. With a pair of good binoculars, the

guests in their hotel rooms or in their deck-chairs on the sun terraces will perhaps be able to see more than the fans lining the edge of the tracks. Furthermore, a network of loudspeakers throughout the area will carry running commentaries on the events.

The championships will, of course, be of interest not only to visitors at Gastein but also to skiing enthusiasts all over the world. The people at Gastein hope to do even better than Cortina d'Ampezzo in this respect: even this early, more countries have made arrangements for radio and television broadcasts than at last year's Winter Olympics. It was no easy task to set up telecasting facilities but the Postal Administration has undertaken to erect a special transmitter and hookup. Their preparations began last winter, when surveyors from the Postal Administration made all-day trips, tramping through the deep snow on the Pongau mountains, to find the proper "picture path." Erection operations can now begin. A transmitter has been built on the Stubnerkogel and a 92-foot tower will be erected on its roof.

A Special Wire Photo Transmission on Station

Three hundred reporters from all over the world are expected at Bad Gastein for the championships. A whole floor at the Hotel Viktoria is being readied to serve as a press center with offices and secretarial space. Every journalist will be supplied with a typewriter with a keyboard familiar to him. On another floor, the Postal Administration is installing telephone booths, a teletype station and even a special wire photo transmission station. The big news agencies will of course have their own offices with their own communications facilities.

AN AUSTRIAN SPORTS ACADEMY. The basic ideas underlying the plans for an Austrian Sports Academy were announced recently at a press conference of Vienna sports writers. The principal task of such an academy would be to serve the needs of competitive and spectator sports. Above all, it is essential that sports trainers and coaches should have opportunities for training and advanced instruction embracing the latest scientific experience in the fields of education, psychology and medicine. All sports-connected activities — such as press, radio, film, and photography coverage and construction of sports facilities — will have their headquarters at the Academy. Besides concerning itself with active athletes whose performance is to be stepped up at special training camps, the Academy will make provision for the interchange of outstanding athletes and coaches from abroad, thereby taking on a general European character.

The Academy is to include the following divisions: Training of licensed physical education teachers; training of coaches, secretaries and officials; courses for sports writers, film and radio commentators, courses in medicine as applied to the subject; the training of ski instructors and coaches for winter and summer sports.

THE VIENNA BARYLLI QUARTET ON U.S. TOUR. Having made its successful U.S. debut on October 27 at New York's Little Carnegie Recital Hall, the Vienna string quartet has announced details of an extended schedule for this fall:

Oct. 21 ALBANY, N.Y.	Chamber Music Society	6 RALEIGH, N.C.	Chamber Music Society
22 NEWARK, N.J.	Griffith Music Found.	7 DURHAM, N.C.	Chamber Arts Society
23 AMHERST, Mass.	Amherst College		
24 S. HADLEY, Mass.	Mount Holyoke College		
25 NEW YORK, N.Y.	Peoples' Symphony Concert		
27 NEW YORK, N.Y.	Concert Society of N.Y.		
28 EUGENE, Ore.	University of Oregon		
29 YAKIMA, Wash.	Wilson School of Music		
31 VANCOUVER, B.C.	Friends of Chamber Mus.		
Nov. 1 SEATTLE, Wash.	Univ. of Washington		
3 PASADENA, Calif.	Coleman Chamber Mus. Soc.		
4 LOS ANGELES, Calif.	Univ. of California		
5 TEMPE, Arizona	Arizona Friends of Music		
6 DENVER, Colorado	Chamber Music Society		
8 IOWA CITY, Iowa	Civic Concert Service		
10 MONTREAL, Canada	Societe Pro Musica		
12 CLEVELAND, Ohio	Chamber Music Society		
14 COLUMBUS, Ohio	Prestige Concerts		
16 LOUISVILLE, Ky.	Ensemble Music Society		
18 BUFFALO, N.Y.	Chamber Music Society		
19 UTICA, N.Y.	Chamber Music Society		
21 TORONTO, Canada	Woman's Music Club		
23 NEW YORK, N.Y.	Metropolitan Museum of Art		
25 UPTON, L.I., N.Y.	Brookhaven Concert Series		
26 CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va.	University of Virginia		
29 WASHINGTON, D.C.	Library of Congress		
30 CHATHAM, Va.	Chatham Hall		
Dec. 2 OAK RIDGE, Tenn.	Oak Ridge Concert Series		
3 AUGUSTA, Ga.	Medical College of Ga.		
5 GREENSBORO, N.C.	Chamber Music Society with Paul Doktor		

TRANSLATIONS OF AUSTRIAN LITERATURE. The UNESCO's 1957 Paris edition of the annual "Index Translationum", giving a complete survey of 1955 translations, lists the following publications of Austrian works in English:

ILSE AICHINGER (1921-), "Der Gefesselte" (UK), (The Bound Man);

EGON C. CONTE CORTI (1886-1953) "Alexander von Battenberg" (UK).

KURT FRIEBERGER (1883-), "Der Fischer Simon Petrus" (UK), (Simon Peter the Fisherman);

SIGMUND FREUD (1856-1939), "Saemtliche Werke" (UK), (Collected Works); "Traumpsycholegie" (USA), (Interpretation of Dreams); "Der Mann Moses und die monotheistische Religion" (USA), (Moses and Monotheism); "Leonardo da Vinci" (USA); "Hauptwerke" (USA), (Major Works);

FRITZ HOCHWAELDER (1911-), "Das heilige Experiment", into English (UK), (The Strong are Lonely);

FRANZ KAFKA (1883-1924), "Amerika", with a foreward by Klaus Mann (USA);

ROBERT MUSIL (1880-1942), "Der junge Toerless" (UK) (Young Toerless);

RAINER MARIA RILKE (1875-1926), "Briefe an Frau Gudi Noelke" (UK), (Letters to Frau Gudi Noelke);

HERBERT ZAND (1923-), "Letzte Ausfahrt" (UK), (The last Sortie);

STEFAN ZWEIG (1881-1942). "Legenden" (UK), (Stories and Legends).

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